

**MARIE CAMARANO**  
**REGIONAL DIRECTOR, McGRUFF SAFE KIDS TOTAL ID SYSTEM**



I have been involved with McGruff the Crime Dog for two years now. McGruff has been around for almost 30 years and I had fond memories of McGruff when police officers would bring him to the elementary school I attended in CA. Many aspects of the McGruff program have changed though over the years as I came to find out. When I first learned that the McGruff business was something that I could actually become a part of now, I had to find out more. I take McGruff out to various events but not limited to schools, day cares, preschools, community and corporate events. We teach children and students how to be safe anywhere – in the home, at school, on the Internet and out in public. We also offer the parents an ID package that gathers critical identifying information about their child. It contains a digital photo, all ten digital fingerprints and a self-collection DNA kit. It is an effective and affordable way to create a totally secure and complete record. We are the only ID program endorsed by The National Crime Prevention Council and Code Amber. In addition, we also collaborate with the Girl Scouts. The Girl Scouts can learn about various safety topics while earning parts of their petals, badges, try-its and charms. It is all age appropriate and an event can be customized due to timeframes and ages.

I am originally from Alaska but I grew up in California. I earned my Bachelor of Arts Degree from California State University, Bakersfield. I majored in Communications with an emphasis on Broadcasting and Public Relations. After graduation, I started working for Wells Fargo Bank as a Personal Banking Officer. I quickly worked my way up the ranks into a Branch Manager/Assistant Vice President position, which is how I ended up in Phoenix. I relocated to Phoenix when Wells Fargo merged with First Interstate Bank. I managed a few branches in Scottsdale and I ended up working for the bank for about four years. Afterwards, I started with AT&T Business Division. There, I helped manage all aspects of sales, marketing and solutions to Fortune 500 companies, Small Business Markets and Government Accounts. I worked for AT&T for almost 6 years. In addition, while working for AT&T, I also earned my MBA in Global Management with the University of Phoenix.

My hobbies include spending time with my soon to be 5 year old son, working out, hiking, gourmet cooking - when I have time, writing – I’m currently working on my first novel, dabbling in films and even venturing into the world of reality TV – making it through several rounds of the audition process for NBC’s “The Apprentice” one year. I have also served on the Board of Peoria Unified School District PEEF organization for three years. We help raise funds for both teacher grants as well as scholarships for high school seniors. Furthermore, I am on the Parent Board at Beatitudes Age Link, which helps to raise funds to better the school and the classrooms.

